

Dec. 1875. *Sir G. B. Airy, On Solar Eclipse, 1875, Sep. 28-29. 57*

losophy than anything else, he came to England in 1764, and died at Islington in 1790. He had various artists under his superintendence, and produced the best instruments of the day. He was made F.R.S. in 1774, and was a member of the Academies of Science of Paris, Madrid, and St. Petersburg.

How this collection of letters passed into the hands of Professor Rigaud there is nothing to inform us; but there they are—long autograph letters on science and scientific instruments, in the autograph writing of such men as Koestner, Achard, Anisson, Barthélemy, Benyouski, Bernouilli, Boscovich, Cassini, Espinoza, Euler, Fonseca, Gavallon, W. Herschel, Lalande, Landriani, Messier, Turgot, Volta, and many more.

But we think we have now said enough to show that a collection of papers which may be very valuable have been opened, as it were, to any one to whom they are of interest; and we think it would be well if many collections of papers left by men of science were deposited in libraries, instead of being retained in families.

Corrected Mean Solar Times of the Beginning and Ending of the Solar Eclipse of 1875, September 28-29, as observed at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich.

(Communicated by the Astronomer Royal.)

The mean solar times of the beginning and ending of the Solar Eclipse as observed at the Royal Observatory, inserted on pages 39 and 40 of the *Monthly Notices* for November, should be diminished each by four minutes, owing to a constant error having been made inadvertently in the conversion of the observed sidereal times into mean solar times. It is considered, therefore, advisable to reprint the corrected resulting mean solar times of the beginning and ending of the Eclipse, to be substituted for those on pages 39 and 40.

Observations of the Beginning of the Eclipse.

| | Instrument. | Clock or Chronometer. | Mean Solar Time. d h m s | Observer. |
|-----|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| (a) | E. Equatoreal | Earnshaw | 28 23 26 7.1 | D. |
| (b) | Altazimuth | Graham 1 | 23 27 10.8 | L. |
| (c) | Simms 4-in. No. 2 | Brockbanks 436 | 23 26 13.8 | A. D. |
| | 6-in. Equatoreal | Webb 53 | 23 27 39.3 | C. B. N. |
| (d) | 2½-in. Altazimuth | Dent 2015 | 23 26 4.0 | J. W. N. |

58 *Prof. Ball, Corrected Observations of Coggia's Comet. XXXVI. 2,**Observations of the Ending of the Eclipse.*

| | Instrument. | Clock or Chronometer. | Mean Solar Time. d h m s | Observer. |
|-----|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| (e) | S. E. Equatoreal | Sid. Standard | 29 0 47 16.6 | W. C. |
| (f) | E. Equatoreal | Earnshaw | 0 47 16.7 | D. |
| (g) | Altazimuth | Graham 1 | 0 47 21.6 | L. |
| | Lee Equatoreal | Frodsham 3449 | 0 47 3.6 | G. L. T. |
| | 6-in Equatoreal | Webb 5380 | 0 46 56.1 | C. B. N. |
| (h) | 2½-in Altazimuth | Dent 2015 | 0 47 2.6 | J. W. N. |

Notes.—(a) Very tremulous. Power 140. (b) Time recorded uncertain. (c) Power 76. (d) Probably from 10 to 20 seconds late. (e) Power 295. (f) Observed through cloud. (g) The observation was considered good. (h) The last contact may have occurred at the recorded time $\pm 7^s$.

The initials of the Observers, W. C., D., L., A. D., G. L. T., C. B. N., and J. W. N., are those of Mr. Christie, Mr. Dunkin, Mr. Lynn, Mr. Downing, Captain Tupman, Lieutenant Neate, and Mr. Nichol.

*Royal Observatory, Greenwich,
1875, December 16.*

*Corrected Observations of Coggia's Comet=Comet III, 1874, made
at Dunsink Observatory, Dublin.*

In the observations printed at p. 51 the days are given incorrectly,* the observations should be as follow:—

| 1874 June | Dublin M.T. h m s | R.A. h m s | Decl. ° ' " | Remarks | Observer. |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------------|-----------|
| | | | | | Brünnow |
| 11 | 13 41 20.0 | 7 2 16.63 | +69 1 3.4 | Very unsteady | |
| 12 | 13 39 10.8 | 7 4 3.62 | 68 59 55.3 | Very bad atmosphere | „ |
| 14 | 13 34 54.9 | 7 7 40.17 | 68 56 11.8 | | „ |
| 15 | 13 32 47.8 | 7 9 29.30 | 68 53 25.0 | | „ |
| 17 | 13 28 35.4 | 7 13 9.33 | 68 45 41.6 | Exceedingly bad atmos. | „ |
| 19 | 13 24 22.8 | 7 16 49.16 | 68 34 16.2 | | „ |
| 25 | 13 11 21.8 | 7 27 25.35 | +67 26 8.5 | | Ball |

* The error was in the original MS.—[Ed.]